

removed from the facility must also be kept. Purchased additions to the facility must have proper identification and records. Live cervidae are not allowed to be removed from the facility.

Full Registration (Breeding, Buying, Selling and Movement)

This classification requires individual animal identification and record keeping. Fence inspection records must also be kept.

Fence Requirements

Fencing for cervidae facilities must be constructed of continuous woven wire. The ground edge of the fence should be at or below ground level.

Fencing height requirements vary for different species of cervidae enclosed in the facility and are as follows:

| Species | Fence Height |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| White-tailed deer, sika deer, fallow deer and mule deer | 10 feet |
| Elk and red deer | 8 feet |
| Reindeer and caribou | 4.5 feet |

Fencing requirements for other species of cervidae are subject to approval by MDA.

Individual Animal Records

Cervidae facilities must maintain accurate records of all animals held at the facility. These records must include official identification, if required, and species and gender records for individual animals.

- Records for each animal entering the facility must include the following:
- Name, address and phone number of the person from whom the animal was acquired
- Copies of test records
- Health certificates or herd status letters
- Age of the animal upon entry into the facility
- Date of entry

For all animals removed from the facility, the date and method of removal must be recorded. For all deaths, records must indicate whether the death was intentional or non-intentional, and the method and site of disposal. For live animals removed from the facility, records must include the name, address and phone number of the person receiving the animal and any required test records, herd status letters or official health certificates.

For More Information, contact:

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Privately Owned Cervidae in Michigan



The Privately Owned Cervidae Producers Marketing Act

Animal Industry Division
www.michigan.gov/mda

Background

The Michigan Privately Owned Cervidae Producers Marketing Act (Public Act 190) was passed in June 2000, to align Michigan's cervidae industry more closely with its agricultural counterparts, such as the cattle, goat and equine industries.

Species Included in the Act

Under this act, all facilities containing cervidae species must be registered with the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). These species include but are not limited to white-tailed deer, elk, reindeer, fallow deer, sika deer, red deer and mule deer.

Existing cervidae facilities must be registered with MDA when their current Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permit expires, or prior to January 1, 2003, whichever is first. Persons wishing to establish new facilities must apply for registration prior to beginning construction.

Application & Business Plan

Owners of all cervidae facilities, new and existing, must submit an application and business plan to MDA that contains the following:

- Proposed species in the facility
- Number of each species
- Classification of the facility
- Type of record keeping
- Type of identification used
- Plan for removal of free-ranging white-tailed deer or elk from facility
- Facility address/location
- Contact information (name, address, phone, fax, email, etc.)

The Registration Process

Once an application for registration is received by MDA, a notice is sent to the DNR for review. The DNR will look at migration patterns and yarding areas for white-tailed deer in the area. A notice is also sent to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ is required to look at the impact of the facility on wetlands. Local units of government are also asked to verify ordinances and zoning. If the facility meets all state and local government regulations and requirements, the facility registration application is approved.

Facility Classifications

All registered cervidae facilities are classified as one or more of the following: Class I (Hobby), Class II (Exhibition), Class III (Ranch), or Full Registration (Breeding, Buying, Selling and Movement).

Note: Cervidae facilities may be classified under more than one of the categories.

Class I (Hobby)

This classification requires individual animal identification and record keeping. Fence inspection records must also be kept. MDA approval is required for purchased animals added to the facility. Live cervidae are not allowed to be removed from the facility.

Class II (Exhibition)

This classification requires individual animal identification and record keeping. Fence inspection records must also be kept. MDA approval is required for purchased animals added to the facility. Live cervidae may leave the facility and return to the facility without approval from MDA, as long as they are returned within 60 days of removal and have had no direct physical contact with other livestock.

Class III (Ranch)

This classification requires animal records to be kept but does not require individual animal identification. Fence inspection records and records of animal products

Cervidae Registration Application

